

## **Annual Aviation Master Gunner Working (MGWG) Group**

### **What is it?**

Each year, the Directorate of Training and Doctrine (DOTD), Gunnery Branch hosts the annual MGWG at Fort Rucker, Ala. The working group provides an opportunity for knowledge sharing and collection, as well as the exchange of ideas and information on gunnery related issues to include discussion of emerging weapons, sensors, and ammunition technologies, and identify any current and future gunnery issues and concerns.

### **What has Army Aviation done?**

Previous iterations of the Annual MGWG were able to capture unique gunnery programs from across the operational forces, further discuss and modify previous versions of the Gunnery Manual, and recommend changes to ammunition allocations and types for gunnery tables. Current and future munitions programs and gunnery tables have been shaped from these discussions from this working group including our deployed gunnery programs in both Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

### **What continued efforts does Army Aviation have planned for the future?**

USAACE intends to continue hosting annually the MGWG held immediately after the Aviation Senior Leaders Conference each year. The intent is to leverage the commanders and senior warrant officers while they are at Fort Rucker and capture their programs and concerns. The attendees of the working group will continue to include Aviation Master Gunners, Utility Master Door Gunners, deployed and CONUS Commanders, the US Marine Corps weapons trainers, allied aviation gunnery representatives, unit operations officers / S-3s, standardization pilots, joint services representatives (Navy Air Force and Marine Corps), U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) and U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM) representatives, Program Managers (PMs), and selected Department of Defense contractors. As the Extended Range / Multi Purpose (ERMP) Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) units are fielded, we anticipate expanding the discussion to cover UAS gunnery considerations. As with the agenda this year, we will also include current aircraft weapons system projects, weapon development projects, the Master Gunner Task List, door gunnery training and the draft TC 3-04.45 Combat Aviation Gunnery. The working group will compile the necessary data and input to finalize the new Combat Aviation Gunnery Manual, TC 3-04.45, in preparation for final editing and publication.

### **Why is this important to the Army and Army Aviation?**

This is a unique opportunity for the Aviation warfighting community to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and exchanging of ideas. The Gunnery Branch will provide an environment for the positive discussion of emerging weapons, sensors, ammunition technologies and training strategies. Additionally, this will afford participants the opportunity to identify current and future gunnery issues and concerns, and enact a resolution process. Upon completion of the Working Group, the Gunnery Branch will compile the trends, lessons learned and recommended solutions as appropriate and distribute these items throughout the Aviation Enterprise.

As of: 22 Mar 2010